(f) the number of cases for which prosecution has been launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) A total of 5029 persons were found involved in violation of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) in the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000.

(b) and (c) Charges are framed in the form of issue of a Show Cause Notice. All the persons who have been found to have *prima facie* violated the provisions of FERA have been issued with a Show Cause Notice for departmental adjudication.

(a) 7612 cases were taken up for investigation during 1998-99 and 1999-2000.

(b) Show Cause Notices were issued in 5029 cases during 1998-99 and 1999-2000.

(c) Prosecutions were launched in 286 cases under Section 56 of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act during 1998-99 and 1999-2000.

Kisan Credit Card

3169. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether banks issue Kishan Credit Cards to farmers;

(b) if so, the benefits of these cards;

(c) the number of beneficiaries, State-wise; and

(d) the extent to which farmers could grow more as compared to previous years with the help of these cards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme aims at adequate and timely support from the banking system to the farmers for their cultivation needs including purchase of inputs in a flexible and cost effective manner. The benefits of KCCs include revolving cash credit facility with unlimited number of drawals and repayments within the ceiling limit, 3-year validity period, consideration of entire production credit needs for full year plus ancillary activities related to crop production while fixing credit limit, incentive for good performance by way of enhancement of credit limits, etc.

(c) The State-wise details of the number of beneficiaries of KCCs are given in the Statement enclosed. *(See* below)

(d) The KCCs are aimed at providing adequate credit to the farmers at their needy hour. It is expected that farmers could avail timely credit and benefit by way of cultivating crops to (he extent possible. Timely repayment of the outstanding would help in enhancement of the credit limits and thus help in increasing their production on a yearly basis.

Statment

State-wise details of the number of beneficiaries of Kisan Credit Cards as on March 1999 and March, 2000

ST. No	Name of State	March, 1999	March, 2000
1.	Andhra Pradesh	53947	1754627
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	9
3.	Assam	71	1140
4.	Bihar	6500	63476
5.	Goa	103	501
6.	Gujarat	1877	109663
7.	Haryana	9297	47577
8.	Himachal Pradesh	590	7027
9.	Jammu and Kashmir		1696
10.	Karnataka	104970	189569
11.	Kerala	51889	145852
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2445	151797
13.	Maharashtra	2067	443235
14.	Manipur	—	43
15.	Meghalaya	—	291
16.	Mizoram	—	3
17.	Nagaland	—	10
18.	Orissa	6315	13285
19.	Punjab	20836	112227
20.	Rajasthan	693	1037519
21.	Sikkim		18
22.	Tamil Nadu	120155	118165

Sr. No	Name of State	March, 1999	March, 2000
23.	Tripura	10	238
24.	Uttar Pradesh	48307	229105
25.	West Bengal	4267	37563
26.	A and N Islands	—	265
27.	Chandigarh	—	0
28.	Daman and Diu	—	0
29.	Delhi	—	80
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	0
31.	Lakshadweep	—	39
32.	Pondicherry	47	835
	TOTAL:	434386	5333418

Fixed Deposits invited by M/s. Punjab Wireless Ltd.

3170. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s Punjab Wireless Limited (A Punjab Government Undertaking), had invited Fixed Deposits from the public during the year 1998;

(b) if so, the amount deposited with the Company and the prescribed period of maturity;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there are a number of complaints against the Company for non-payment of the maturity amount to the investors and even of not responding to the correspondence from them; and

(a) if so, the action being taken against the Company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF THE INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) As per balance sheet of company as at 31.03.98, the company had accepted fixed deposits of Rs. 6.62 crores from public. The deposits were accepted under Fixed Deposit